

**Scheduled Ancient Monument Management Plan
October 2015**

BLAEN GLASFFRWD LONGHOUSE (CD206)



Figure 1. View from ESE (Cadw 2015)

Customer Reference Number (CRN): A0026759

Farm name: Tynddraenen



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This management advice has been produced within the Historic Environment Branch of Cadw to inform management of the Scheduled Ancient Monument included in the Advanced Element of the Glastir land management scheme.

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Contained within this report:

1.	Site Description.....	5
	Additional information:.....	5
2.	Current Condition	6
	Management Issues	6
3.	Management Advice	6
	Prioritised list of management works:	6
3.1.	Category I works	7
	Rush control	7
3.2.	Long-term management recommendations / best practice.....	7
4.	Photographs	8
5.	Indicative Map of the Scheduled Area.....	9
6.	Requirements.....	10
6.1.	Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979	10
6.2.	Cross Compliance.....	10
6.3.	Glastir - Whole Farm Code.....	11

SAM name and reference number	Blaen Glasffrwd longhouse, CD206
Grid reference	SN 77055 62809
Current Cadw funded schemes (MA /AM Grant)	None
Cadw FMW and contact details	<p>Helen Burnham</p> <p>Field Monument Warden</p> <p>Cadw</p> <p>Welsh Government</p> <p>Tel: 01570 422075</p> <p>Mobile: 07968 609833</p> <p>E-mail: helen.burnham@wales.gsi.gov.uk</p>

I. Site Description

The following provides a general description of the Scheduled Ancient Monument.

- The monument comprises the remains of a building, probably dating to the late-medieval or post-medieval periods and situated in enclosed upland pasture on a central terrace within the sheltered upper basin containing the catchment for the Nant Glasffrwd. The building is subrectangular on plan and measures 15m from WNW to ESE by 3.5m transversely within drystone rubble walls measuring 1m in thickness and 0.6m in height. The building is orientated perpendicularly to the slope and terraced in on the ESE. It has two compartments: the upper is larger and better defined, measuring 7.5m in length; while the lower measures 6.5m in length and contains a distinct transverse step. It may also have had opposed entrances.
- The building is a well-preserved example of a longhouse and presumably represents the remains of a seasonal hafotai.
- The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of medieval and post medieval land use, settlement and economy. It is a well preserved example of an upland settlement and retains great archaeological potential to enhance our knowledge of medieval and post medieval stock rearing practices in the upland zone, whether as permanent settlement, regular transhumance (such as the hafod system of summer pasture), or intermittent opportunistic expansion.
- The scheduled area comprises the remains described and an area around them within which related evidence may be expected to survive. It is rectangular and measures 40m from WNW to ESE by 20m transversely.

Additional information:

The much larger scheduled area of the Blaen Glasffrwd cairn cemetery, CDI38, lies in the same parcel of upland pasture.

2. Current Condition

- The site is in generally good condition and lies within an area of rough upland grazing

Management Issues

- Rushes around the site are not a problem at present but should not be allowed to encroach further or grow taller.

3. Management Advice

The following works are recommended to improve the condition of the scheduled ancient monument. Cadw Field Monument Wardens are available to provide help and advice, and can be contacted via details shown on page 4.

Prioritised list of management works:

- Maintain a short grass cover with other vegetation not exceeding a maximum height of 40cm through an appropriate grazing regime and / or annual vegetation cut to ground level.

Specific method statements are provided in the following pages.

3.1. Category I works

These works can be undertaken without scheduled monument consent provided that they are carried out according to the guidance specified below:

Rush control

- ***Maintain a short grass cover with other vegetation not exceeding a maximum height of 40cm through an appropriate grazing regime and / or annual vegetation cut to ground level.***
- Cutting is to be undertaken by hand (using a strimmer with string attachment head, not a brush-cutter).
- Stones within the scheduled area should not be disturbed.
- Stems to be cut at ground level, leaving the roots to decay in-situ.

3.2. Long-term management recommendations / best practice

- Continue to maintain a short grass cover with other vegetation not exceeding a maximum height of 40cm as per the works recommended and guidance specified above.
- Note should also be taken of the general requirements given in Section 6 below.

4. Photographs

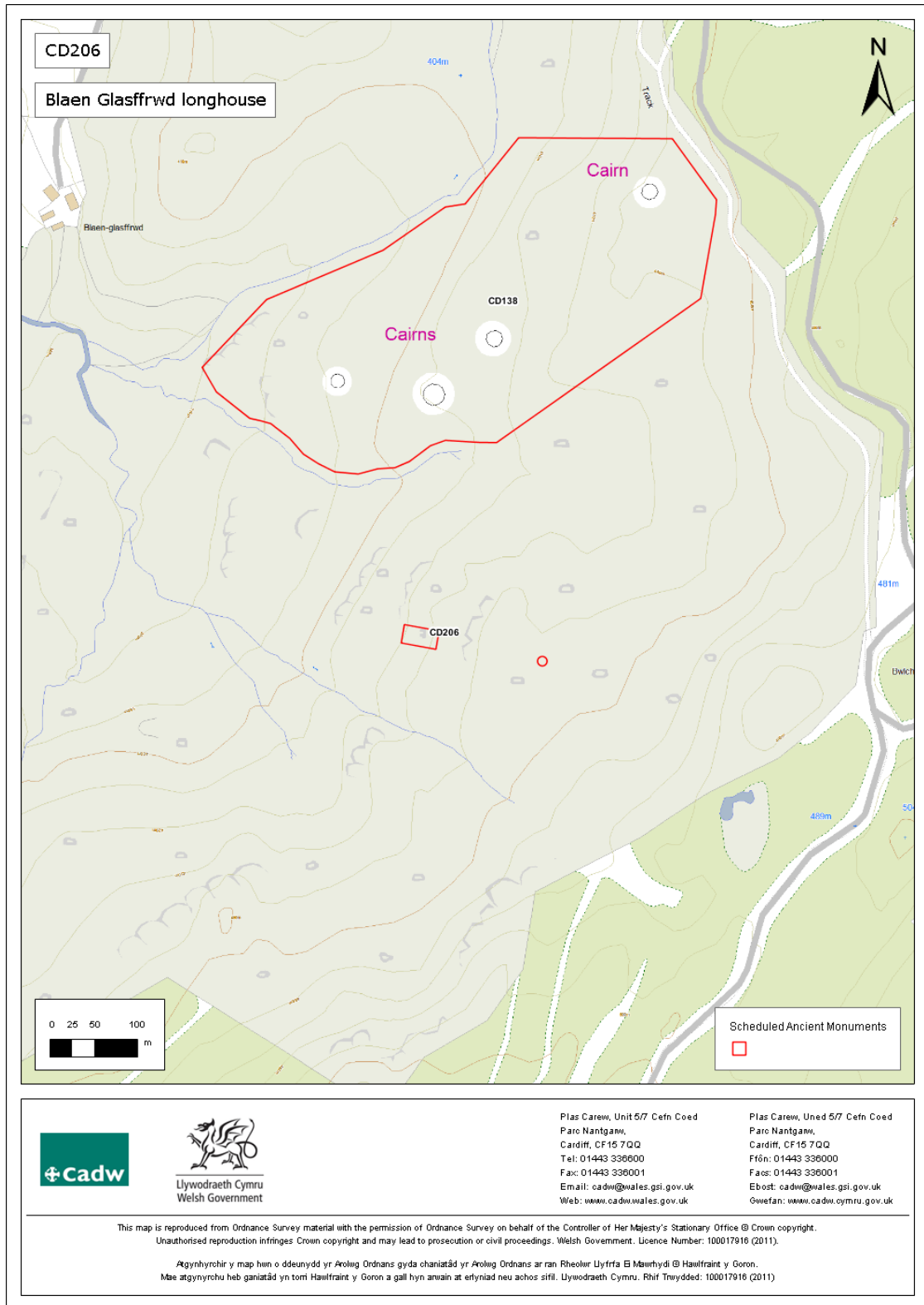


Figure 2. View from NE (Cadw 2015)



Figure 3. View from S, with cairn CDI38C visible behind (Cadw 2015)

5. Indicative Map of the Scheduled Area



6. Requirements

6.1. Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979

Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs) are monuments deemed to be of national importance and as such are protected under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979. It is an offence under the legislation to cause damage or disturbance to a SAM.

Damage or disturbance would include – any unauthorised works that involve ground disturbance (including fencing), but also importing material into the scheduled area, metal detecting, rewetting, burning etc.

Any operations involving ground disturbance, the importation of material or rewetting require Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) to have been approved by Cadw prior to the works being undertaken

6.2. Cross Compliance

Scheduled Ancient Monuments are afforded further protection under Cross - Compliance GAEC 7 Landscape Features.

GAEC 7 States:

- No work to a Scheduled Ancient Monument may be carried out without formal consent from Cadw e.g. ploughing, fencing, drainage, track upgrades etc
- Comply with all consent requirements in full
- Do not destroy or damage a Scheduled Ancient Monument
- Do not damage scheduled historic features through activities which cause or encourage soil erosion or ground disturbance on ancient monuments, e.g.:
 - overgrazing
 - growth of invasive scrub or vegetation

- trampling and poaching
- vehicle tracking, particularly on steep slopes or when ground conditions are wet
- supplementary feeding
- cultivation encroachment
- storage of equipment, materials and rubbish

6.3. Glastir - Whole Farm Code

The Glastir Whole Farm Code states:

You must not damage any historic feature identified on your agreement map

Definitions of damage to a historic feature include ANY of the following:

- Ground disturbance or excavation especially extending beneath topsoil
- Dumping or storage of material, including temporary storage
- Removal of any material, including stones, soil or subsoil
- Visible signs of active erosion (loss and disturbance of topsoil) caused by livestock and vehicles or other agricultural practice
- Planting trees
- Allowing scrub to develop
- Ploughing or reseeding
- Displacing individual stone features